

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A washing machine, comprising:

a laundry tub in which laundry is put;

a water supply unit that supplies water to the laundry tub;

an agitating unit that agitates the laundry in the laundry tub;

an ion eluting portion for eluting metal ions and adding the eluted metal ions to water;

a sensing portion for sensing imbalance at the time of rotation of the laundry tub; and

a control unit configured to operate such that, on recognizing that the sensing portion has sensed imbalance during spin-drying rotation,

if before the spin-drying rotation the ion eluting portion was controlled so as not to supply metal ions to the laundry tub, the control unit performs a first balance correction rinsing in which the control unit controls the water supply unit and the ion eluting portion to supply water containing no metal ions to the laundry tub and controls the agitating unit to perform agitation, and

if before the spin-drying rotation the ion eluting portion was controlled so as to supply metal ions to the laundry tub, the control unit performs a second balance correction rinsing in which the control unit controls the water supply unit and the ion eluting portion to supply water containing metal ions to the laundry tub and controls the agitating unit to perform agitation.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) A washing machine according to claim 1,

wherein the control unit sets an amount of supply of the metal ion added water to the laundry tub in the second balance correction rinsing so as to be smaller than an amount of supply of the metal ion added water in a preceding operation.

4. (Previously Presented) A washing machine according to claim 1,

wherein the control unit sets a metal ion concentration of the metal ion added water to the laundry tub in the second balance correction rinsing so as to be lower than a metal ion concentration of the metal ion added water in a preceding operation.

5. (Previously Presented) A washing machine according to claim 1,

wherein the laundry tub is a drum disposed so that a rotation axis thereof is slanted with respect to a vertical direction.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) A washing machine according to claim 3,

wherein the laundry tub is a drum disposed so that a rotation axis thereof is slanted with respect to a vertical direction.

8. (Previously Presented) A washing machine according to claim 4,

wherein the laundry tub is a drum disposed so that a rotation axis thereof is slanted with respect to a vertical direction.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A washing machine according to claim 1, wherein the control unit is configured to operate such that,

on recognizing that the sensing portion has sensed imbalance during spin-drying rotation, if before the spin-drying rotation the ion eluting portion was controlled so as not to supply metal

ions to the laundry tub, before performing the second balance correction rinsing, the control unit controls the agitating unit to perform balance correction by agitation without supply of the water containing metal ions, and

thereafter on recognizing that the sensing portion is still sensing imbalance during the spin-drying rotation, the control unit performs the second balance correction rinsing.

11. (Previously Presented) A washing machine, comprising:

a laundry tub for accommodating laundry therein;

a water supply unit for supplying water to the laundry tub;

an agitating unit for agitating the laundry in the laundry tub;

an ion eluting portion for eluting metal ions and adding the eluted metal ions to water supplied by the water supply unit;

a sensing portion for sensing imbalance of the laundry at the time of rotation of the laundry tub and outputting a detection signal;

a selection unit for selecting between a first mode in which the eluted metal ions are not to be added to the water supplied to the laundry tub prior to a spin-drying rotation, and a second mode in which the eluted metal ions are to be added to the water supplied to the laundry tub prior to the spin-drying rotation, and outputting a selection signal; and

a control unit configured to operate such that, on recognizing that the sensing portion has sensed imbalance during the spin-drying rotation,

if the selection signal is recognized to be indicating the first mode, the control unit performs a first balance correction rinsing in which the control unit controls the water supply unit and the ion eluting portion to supply water containing no metal ions to the laundry tub and controls the agitating unit to perform agitation, and

if the selection signal is recognized to be indicating the second mode, the control unit performs a second balance correction rinsing in which the control unit controls the water supply

unit and the ion eluting portion to supply water containing metal ions to the laundry tub and controls the agitating unit to perform agitation.

12. (Cancelled)